

Goodfellowship Building
1242-88th Avenue
Duluth, Minnesota
St. Louis County

HABS No. MN-64

HABS
MINN,
69-DULU,
8-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver Colorado 80225

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

HABS MINN, 69-DULU, 8-

NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING RECORD HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Minnesota	COUNTY St. Louis	TOWN OR VICINITY Duluth
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Coodfellowship Community Club Building		HABS NO. MN-64
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Coodfellowship		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 1242-88th Avenue West, Duluth, Minnesota 55808		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1915-1917	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Dean & Dean (Chicago) and Morell & Nichole (Mpl)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) This stucco skinned structure was constructed as a community and recreational facility for the people of the Morgan Park "New Town" by Minnesota Steel Co.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) NOT APPLICABLE		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Reinforced concrete buttress with stucco on wood framing infill		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) "H" shaped plan--228' x 156' out to out dimensions--approx. 46,000 sq. ft. of space		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE The exterior of the building is a rhythmic composition of reinforced concrete piers with stucco panel infills. Brick detail on the piers, ornamental concrete railings are also prominent features. The roof was originally of slate with built-in eave troughs.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) 1) The ground floor houses the recreationally active areas--swimming pool, gymnasium and locker rooms, billiard room, bowling alley, and dining facility. 2) The first floor was meeting rooms and the assembly room, the most prominent and dramatic space in the entire structure.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES 1) Tile roof removed--asphalt shingle installed--date unknown. 2) Closing in of the east entry porch--date unknown.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE 1) Condition--deteriorated. 2) Use--vacant.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Documentation for this structure was prepared by the City of Duluth in compliance with Executive Order 11593 and a Memorandum with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) 1977 Minnesota Historical Society nomination to National Register of Historic Districts Minnesota Inventory of Historic Places--Minnesota Historical Society		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Gerald Johnson, Duluth City Architect William C. Majewski, Office of Business Development		DATE December 23, 1981

Goodfellowship Building-Duluth, MinnesotaWritten Historical and Descriptive DataPart I. Documentation for Building

- A. Historic Name--Goodfellowship Community Club
- B. Location--1242 88th Avenue West
(Morgan Park Neighborhood)
Duluth, Minnesota 55808
St. Louis County
- C. Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates--T49N-R15W-Section 35
- D. Present Use--The present building is vacant and scheduled for demolition during the Fall of 1981. A new structure of approximately 8,000 square feet will be constructed in the Spring of 1982.
- E. Significance--The stucco and frame "H" shaped building comprising 42,000 square feet on two levels was built as an element of a New Town by the Minnesota Steel Company (a subsidiary of U.S. Steel Corporation) when some 170 other structures were constructed for employees and businesses to complement the steel mill.
- F. Date of Erection--Constructed between 1915 and 1917, the formal opening was January 14, 1918 with a reported audience of 5,000 observers.
- G. Original and Subsequent Owners -
1918-1973 U.S. Steel Corporation (See Attachment)
1973-Present City of Duluth
- H. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure--
Most of the activities and organizations were situated in the Morgan Park Clubhouse, a large centrally located facility which was formally opened on 14 January 1918, to a reported audience of 5,000 observers. One of the finest facilities in the Duluth area, the clubhouse provided residents with access to bowling alleys, a swimming pool, a gymnasium, tennis courts, a motion picture auditorium, and rooms for reading and special activities. Over the years the building was the Community Center. The gymnasium was used by the high school until a facility was constructed on the school site. Meetings of a political nature were held here with Congressmen, Senators and Vice Presidents (Hubert Humphrey, Ted Kennedy, Walter Mondale, James Oberstar, John Blatnik, among others).
- I. Architect --The architects were Morell and Nichols, Minneapolis, and Dean & Dean, Chicago. Funds for the \$153,000 building were a gift from J. P. Morgan and housed recreational facilities for all age groups.

The design of the building and materials were the same as that applied to the other buildings erected during the same period. The site consists of eight (8) acres of open space.

The initial exterior effect was rather gray and drab, but some of the "bomb shelter quality" was avoided by the gables, eaves, and pitched roofs which topped the concrete boxes.

- J. Architectural Information--Architecturally, the buildings (constructed between 1914 and 1922) in Morgan Park are of interest in that one type of material (concrete in two forms: block and stucco) has been used in the construction while avoiding the monotony of standard appearance found in company towns of the period.

An area of eight acres was set aside for a clubhouse and recreation grounds.

Constructed prior to 1918, the Good Fellowship Center is a large building in the form of four distinct wings with a central axis. It is one story in height with a full basement. It is constructed of frame faced in cement stucco; the curtain walls and roof being supported by heavy concrete buttresses. When constructed, the clubhouse and equipment cost approximately \$127,000 with an additional \$26,000 allocated to the construction and equipment for the recreational grounds. Facilities provided include auditorium, swimming pool, bowling alley, gymnasium, lecture and meeting rooms, and separate areas for men and women.

- K. Exterior and Interior Features of Note--See Data Form

- L. Floor Plans--See Photos

- M. Bibliography & References--See Attached: NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY-NOMINATION FORM

Also St. Louis County Historical Society has data and records in their files.

- N. Project Information--The removal of the existing building was recommended by a Task Force of residents from the area served by the facility who are active in various organizations. Persons participating were as follows: Lionel Peabody--Morgan Park-Smithville Community Club President; Julene Boe--former Board of Directors Member of GFCC Non-Profit Organization; Paul Brake--President Morgan Park Senior Citizens Club; Dean Persch--Morgan Park Hockey Club and City-Wide Citizen's Advisory Committee on Community Development; Vicky Peterson--Citizen Member of Senior Community; Faye Hietala--Board Member of Community Club; Alex Sisto--Hockey Club Member; Ella Jones--Community Club Board Member; Ray Carson--Director of Parks & Recreation Dept.; Mike Conlan--Director of Human Services Division; Gerald Johnson--City Architect; Susan Hechter Johnson--Project Designer; William C. Majewski--Staff Coordinator.

The proposal is to replace the 42,000 square foot building with a new facility consisting of approximately 9,000 square feet.

The new building is to be funded using monies available through the Community Development Block Grant program as administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.